

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing or inhibiting ~~an indication or disease~~ a pathological condition associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production which is specific for a particular endogenous antigen that is normally expressed in a human, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a human afflicted with, or at risk of, the ~~indication or disease~~ pathological condition a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to ~~alter~~ reduce or inhibit the aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the endogenous antigen.
2. (Currently Amended) A method of suppressing, tolerizing or inhibiting the priming or activity of CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells which are associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production specific for an exogenous antigen, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a mammal afflicted with, or at risk of, the ~~indication or disease~~ aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to suppress, tolerize or inhibit the priming or activity of, CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells which are associated with said antibody production, thereby reducing or inhibiting the amount of said antibody, in mammals having divergent immune response haplotypes, wherein the CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells are specific for the exogenous antigen, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope sequence, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the antigen.

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3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the administration is effective to reduce or inhibit the amount of said antibody for an antigen comprising said peptide.
  4. (Previously Canceled).
  5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the endogenous antigen is the acetylcholine receptor, insulin, growth hormone, factor VIII or factor IX.
  6. (Previously Canceled).
  7. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 2~~ A method of suppressing, tolerizing or inhibiting the priming or activity of CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells which are associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production specific for an exogenous antigen, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a mammal afflicted with, or at risk of, the aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to suppress, tolerize or inhibit the priming or activity of, CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells which are associated with said antibody production, thereby reducing or inhibiting the amount of said antibody, in mammals having divergent immune response haplotypes, wherein the CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells are specific for the exogenous antigen, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope sequence, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the antigen, wherein the exogenous antigen is a fungal antigen or an antigen of a domestic cat.

Claims 8-12 (Previously Canceled).

13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the mammal is human.

Claim 14-15 (Previously Canceled).

16. (Canceled).
17. (Previously Amended) A method to tolerize a human to an endogenous antigen associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in the human, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of the human at least one epitope peptide, having a universal immunodominant epitope sequence, wherein the administration is effective to tolerize CD4<sup>+</sup> cells which are associated with antibody production to the endogenous antigen, in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the antigen.

- I, 18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the peptide is nasally administered.

Claims 19-30 (Previously Canceled).

31. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, 2, or 17 wherein the administration does not increase synthesis of pathogenic antibody to the native antigen.

Claims 32-33 (Previously Canceled).

34. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the administration is effective to reduce or inhibit the affinity of the antibody for an antigen comprising said peptide.
35. (Previously Added) The method of claim 34 wherein the antigen is an endogenous antigen.
36. (Previously Added) The method of claim 35 wherein the endogenous antigen is the acetylcholine receptor, insulin, growth hormone, factor VIII or factor IX.
37. (Previously Added) The method of claim 34 wherein the antigen is an exogenous antigen.

38. (Previously Added) The method of claim 37 wherein the antigen is a fungal antigen.
39. (Previously Added) The method of claim 1, 2 or 17 further comprising administering an agent that inhibits B cell activation.

Claim 40 (Previously Canceled).

41. (Previously Added) The method of claim 17 wherein the endogenous antigen is the acetylcholine receptor, insulin, growth hormone, factor VIII or factor IX.
- I, 42. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of preventing or inhibiting a pathological condition associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production which is specific for a particular endogenous antigen that is normally expressed in a human, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a human afflicted with, or at risk of, the pathological condition a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to reduce or inhibit the aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the endogenous antigen, wherein the peptide includes residues 150-169, 181-200 or 360-378 of the *Torpedo californica* acetylcholine receptor alpha subunit or a portion of those residues or corresponding residues in human acetylcholine receptor.
43. (Previously Added) The method of claim 42 wherein the mammal is a mouse.

44. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1 or 17~~ A method of preventing or inhibiting a pathological condition associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production which is specific for a particular endogenous antigen that is normally expressed in a human, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a human afflicted with, or at risk of, the pathological condition a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to reduce or inhibit the aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the endogenous antigen, wherein the antigen is factor VIII.